



## **Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico**

### **Region 6 REOC Update**

**Subject:** Region 6 Update # 20  
**Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico**  
**Date:** May 17, 2010  
**To:** Incident Command  
**Thru:** Planning Section  
**From:** Situation Unit  
**Operational Period:** May 16, 2010 2401 – May 16, 2010 2400  
**Reporting Period:** May 16, 2010 2401 – May 17, 2010 1300

### **1. Background**

<b>Site Name:</b>	Deepwater Horizon Incident	<b>FPN#:</b>	N10036
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	4/27/2010	<b>Start Date:</b>	4/28/2010

### **2. Current Situation**

- Incident Status Summary as reported by NOAA as of 1800 5/16:
  - Over 19,000 personnel are currently responding to the incident.
  - More than 650 vessels are responding to the incident including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels. Additionally, dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units have been deployed.
  - Over 1.25 million feet of containment boom and 440,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed. Approximately 285,000 feet of containment boom and 900,000 feet of sorbent boom have been staged and are available.
  - Approximately 6.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
  - Approximately 600,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed. More than 280,000 gallons are staged and available.
  - 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines that stretches along the coast from St. Mary, LA to St. Marks, FLA.

#### **2.1 (USCG) Incident Command Post (Houma, LA)**

- BP has confirmed further success with riser insert. As of this report time, unknown percentage of crude/gas is flowing to the tanker Enterprise. The methane gas is being flared and the oil is being recovered.

- EPA representative confirmed PRFA amendment for ERT air sampling (\$178,000) was sent to USCG Admiral Landry for signature.
- EPA reviewed the BP air sampling/monitoring plan for waste staging areas and provided comments regarding required laboratory analysis.
- EPA reviewed the revised BP waste management plan and provided comments. The plan is under review by R4 and EPA HQ.
- EPA representative attended waste management conference call with EPA HQ, Region 6 and Region 4 regarding the status of the Petroleum Exclusion and coordination with R6 and R4.
- Coordinated with Responsible Party concerning the use of labs used for sampling to ensure different labs are being used by EPA.
- EPA continues coordination with federal partners and BP representatives regarding monitoring/sampling of surface and subsurface dispersant impacts to ensure all parties are aware of all activities.
- USCG confirmed on 5/17 through analysis that oil was not associated with the Deep Horizon Spill (see following statement). On, 5/15, local news reported a catch from a shrimp boat in Terrebonne Bay was contaminated with oil. The state closed the area and confiscated the catch. The location of the shrimp catch was inshore from any reported floating oil.

## **2.2 (USCG) Area Command Post (Robert, LA)**

- The Area Command Environmental Unit leadership continues to coordinate overall strategies for monitoring subsurface dispersed oil plumes.

## **2.3 Air Monitoring/Sampling**

- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Venice operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
  - Venice, LA - 29.25274 N, 89.35750 W - V02;
  - Boothville, LA - 29.31449 N, 89.38433 W - V03;
  - Fort Jackson, LA – 29.35699 N, 89.45487 W – V05.
- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Chalmette operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
  - Poydras, LA – 29.86609, -89.89108 – C02 - located at Fire Station number 8;
  - Chalmette, LA - 29.96082, -90.00132 - C04 – located at FireStation on Aycock St.
  - Hopedale, LA, - 29.84049, -89.68980 - C05 located at Fire Station number 11.
- Each air monitoring location has 5 pieces of air equipment:
  - DataRAM - monitoring particulate matter PM10 (Serve as back-ups to EBAMs);
  - EBAM (Particulate Monitors)-equipment has replace DataRAM's;
  - AreaRae/MultiRae - monitoring VOCs;
  - PQ200 - samples for PM2.5;
  - SUMMA Canisters per location - sample for VOCs.
- Air monitoring/sampling stations are monitored throughout the day (24 hours) for immediate reporting of any elevated VOC or particulate levels. The maximum reading is reported to the OSC at Mobile Command Post in Venice and Chalmette.

- Real-time air monitoring data from midnight to midnight each day is reviewed for field QA and uploaded into SCRIBE by 1200 each day and available to EPA Headquarters, REOC, and external response partners.
- Venice reported action level exceedences at station V03 for 0.8 ppm for H<sub>2</sub>S and 30% for Oxygen. Due to the monitoring stations location outdoors, oxygen exceedences are likely due to equipment malfunction. Crew currently researching potential equipment issues.

**EPA summary of air monitoring/sampling activities:**

<b>Air Monitoring &amp; Samples</b>	<b>DataRAM (PM10)</b>	<b>AreaRae</b>	<b>SUMMA Canisters</b>	<b>PM2.5</b>	<b>TOTALS FOR 5/16</b>
<b>Venice</b>	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	3	6
<b>Chalmette</b>	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	3	6
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>	6 locs/24-hr	6 locs/24-hr	215	96	

\*QAQC samples not included in sample count

## 2.4 Water/Sediment Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct water and sediment sampling at locations provided by EPA Headquarters and selected through National Coastline Condition Assessment (NCCA) program. The NCCA sample locations are sampled every four years by state agencies with U.S. Coastlines. Sample parameters and locations were also selected in coordination with the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Division.
- Representatives from the Water Division and the REOC Environmental Units from R6 and R4 conduct a conference call three times a week with the HQ EOC to discuss the coordination and consistency of water and sediment sampling across the Deepwater Horizon Incident Response.
- On 5/16, Chalmette conducted water operations from Coco Marina in Cocodrie, LA to Vermilion Bay to collect water and sediment samples (completing initial NCA survey locations). The team traveled approximately 180 round trip miles by boat, and reported no sign of oil or oiled wildlife along the route.
- On 5/16, Venice water operations were not conducted due to inclement weather and rough seas. On 5/17, Venice water operations collected weathered oil and water from the north portion of the South Pass.

**EPA summary of water/sediment activities:**

<b>Water/Sediment Samples</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Sediment</b>	<b>TOTALS FOR 5/16</b>
<b>Venice</b>	0	0	0
<b>Chalmette</b>	3	3	6
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>	78	70	

\*QAQC samples not included in sample count

## 2.5 TAGA

- TAGA 1553 is on standby and is planned to conduct monitoring beginning on 5/17 in southeast Louisiana.

## 2.6 ASPECT

- ASPECT scheduled a 0830 flight to collect spectral and photographic data of any burn operations, and dispersant operations.
- On 5/17, early reports from the ASPECT crew was sheen observed at 29.4837N, 88.6908W (approximately 20 miles southeast of the Chandeleur Islands). Heavy oil starts at 29.4093N, 88.6782W and thins out to a sheen at 29.2735N, 88.6551W (slick extends approximately 9.5 miles). A second large patch of oil was observed at 29.0365N, 88.6092W (approximately 27 miles SE of South Pass). No burns were observed.
- At 1305 on 5/17, ASPECT collected data over an in-situ burning operation.

## 2.7 Water Quality Protection Division Update

- Water Quality Protection Division situation is attached.

## 3. EPA Assets

### 3.1 Current Assets Deployed

- Activated in Dallas, TX
  - REOC activated
  - SRICT activated
  - RRT activated

### Deployed Personnel

Personnel	Dallas, TX	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Venice, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
<b>EPA</b>								
- OSC	3		1		1	1		6
- RSC	5	1	1					7
- PIO		3						3
- Other	3	2	1	1	1			8
<b>START</b>	5				16	11		32
<b>ERT Contractor</b>						1		1
<b>TAGA Personnel</b>							5	5
<b>ASPECT Personnel</b>							4	4
<b>Other</b>								
<b>TOTALS</b>	16	6	3	1	18	13	9	66

### Deployed Equipment

Equipment	Dallas, TX	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Venice, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
Mobile Command Post						1		1
ASPECT							1	1
TAGA Bus							1	1
LRV		1			1			2
Gooseneck Trailer						1		1
20 KW Generator						1		1

\* One TAGA bus has been assigned to Region 4 Operations

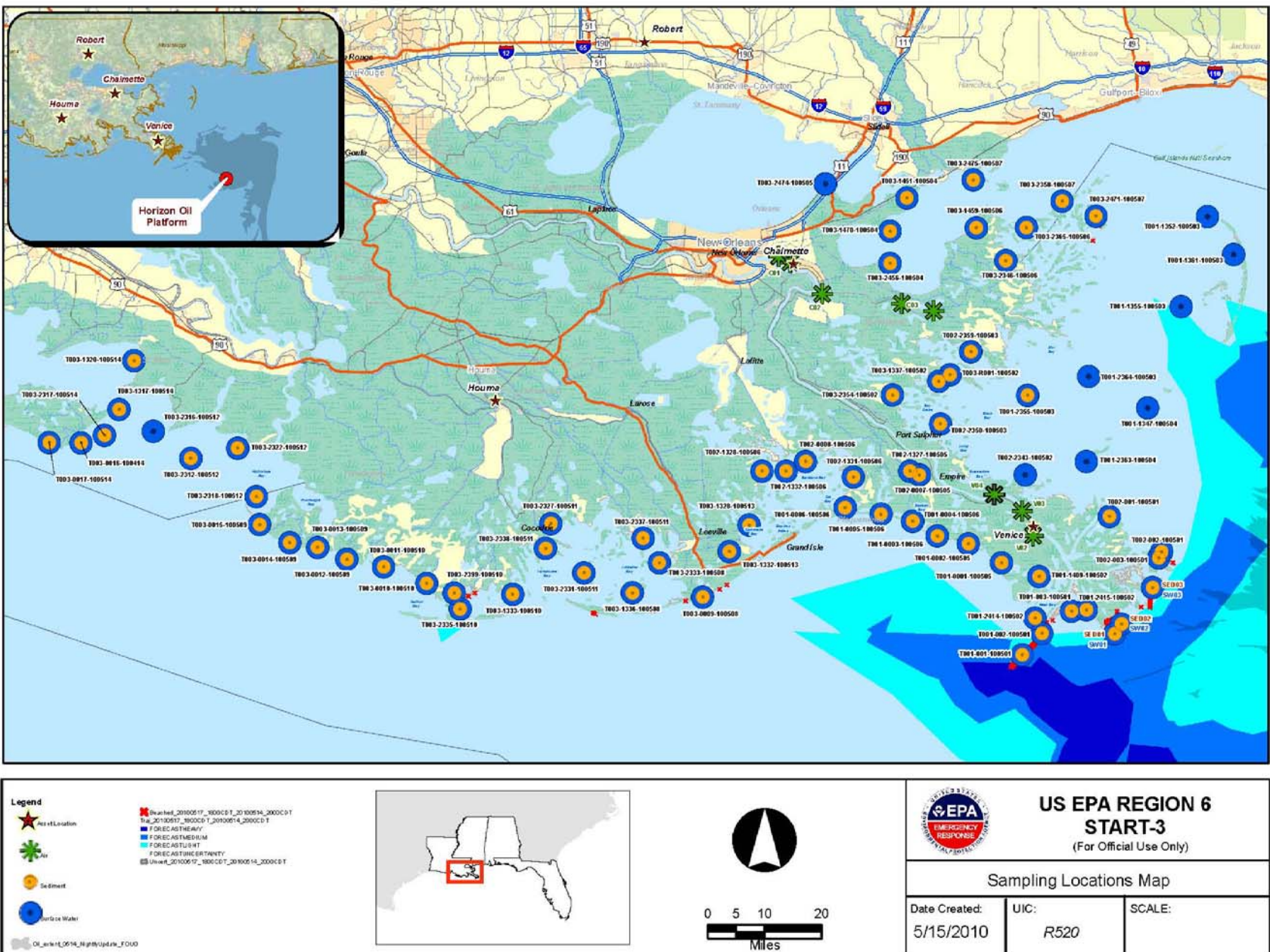
### 4. Daily Cost Estimates

	Est. Personnel Cost	Est. Travel Cost	Est. Contracts/ Purchase Spent	Total Est. Cost/Spent	Total Contract/ Purchase Oblig.	Total USCG PRFA Ceiling	Balance	Est. Daily Burn Rate	Days left
USCG PRFA FPN N10036	\$414,832	\$99,697	\$1,978,000	\$2,492,529	\$3,158,713	\$4,420,084	\$1,927,555	\$133,603	14
TOTAL EPA FUNDED	\$414,832	\$99,697	\$1,978,000	\$2,492,529	\$3,158,713	\$4,420,084	\$1,927,555	\$133,603	14
Region 6 Indirect Rate 13.12%						\$579,916			
Louisiana Total	\$414,832	\$99,697	\$1,978,000	\$2,492,529	\$3,158,713	\$5,000,000	\$1,927,555	\$133,603	14



Figure 1 – U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft prepares for takeoff to conduct aerial dispersant operations. Courtesy US Air Force.

## Monitoring/Sampling Locations





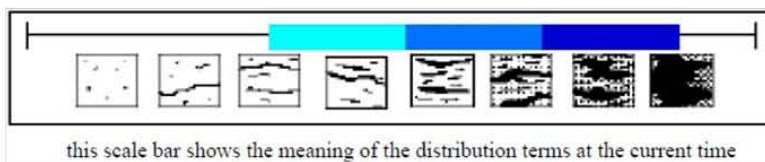
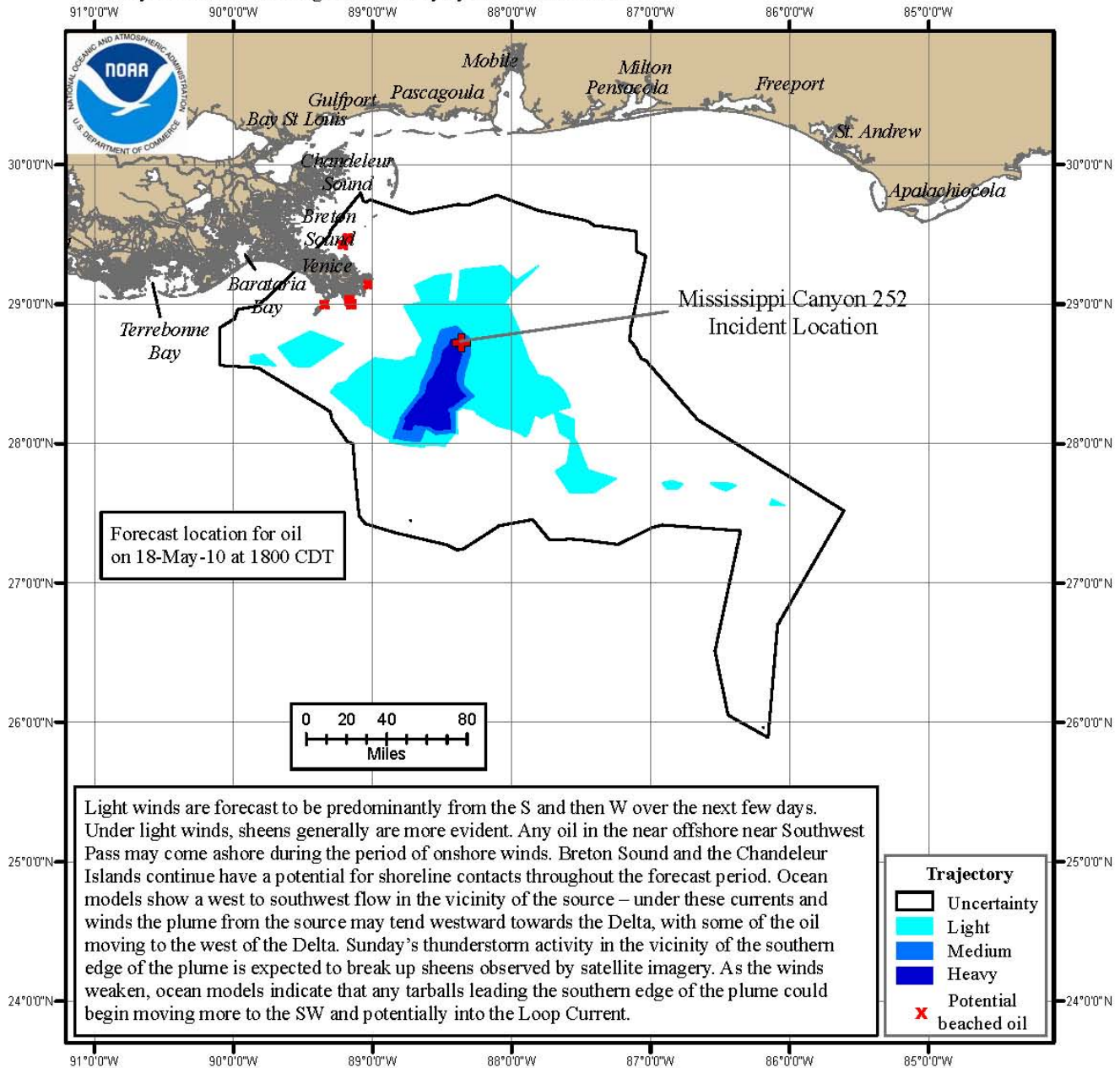
# Trajectory Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Estimate for: 1800 CDT, Tuesday, 5/18/10

Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Sunday, 5/16/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Sunday, May 16 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, Texas A&M/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Saturday morning satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS). The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization). Oil near bay inlets could be brought into that bay by local tidal currents.



Next  
Forecast:  
May 17th PM